

Montana Invasive Species Bulletin

Brought to you by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council
www.dnrc.mt.gov/misac

The Invasive Species Bulletin provides you with all the latest news on invasive species in Montana and the region. Please let us know if you have any suggestions, contributions, questions, corrections, or comments.

Email: shester@mt.gov

Montana News

MISAC issues RFP for rapid response preparedness

The Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council (MISAC) seeks an experienced natural resource consultant to develop deliverables for an early detection rapid response (EDRR) pilot project for non-native mussels in the Tiber Reservoir/Lake Elwell. The intent of the pilot project is to identify, test, and evaluate effective coordination among government agencies and non-governmental stakeholders in the development and implementation of a site-specific EDRR program instituted as an emergency response measure. [Read more....](#)

Aquatic Invasive Species Grants--Call for Applications

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) offers state-funded grants for the prevention and control of aquatic invasive species (AIS). The goal of the grants is to protect the natural resources of Montana from severe and unacceptable damage from aquatic invasive species. Additional information about the grant program can be found on the [DNRC website](#).

Grant applications must be submitted via email or postal mail by close of business **Thursday, June 1, 2017**.

Regional AIS News

Visit the Aquatic Invasive Species Network at westernais.org for the latest AIS news in and around the region. (Thanks, Stephen)

Other

Firewood Outreach Professional News Has Moved and Don't Move Firewood in the Western States

[Don't Move Firewood in the Western States webinar on April 27](#). This webinar will focus on the products and services of greatest interest to western state and federal agency communication directors. This webinar will be open to all, and will be recorded and published to our YouTube channel after it is completed.

To subscribe to the Firewood Outreach Professionals Newsletter or to access the April 2017 edition [click here](#).

April is Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month

Are you accidentally spreading invasive pests and diseases throughout Montana or around our country? Through our everyday actions—when we take firewood from home to our campsite, mail a gift of homegrown fruits or plants, or order plants, seeds or fruit online—we can contribute to the unintentional spread of any number of destructive plant pests. That's why it's important for everyone to take action to prevent spread.

Damaging pests like the gypsy moth, brown marmorated stink bug, Karnal bunt, or the potato cyst nematode threaten our cities and towns, forests, waterways, and agricultural communities. These pests can hitchhike with outdoor household items, vehicles, firewood, seeds, and soil. Fortunately, these pests are not in our state and we need your help to keep it that way.

It only takes one person to move something they shouldn't. For instance, we know the emerald ash borer (EAB) beetle didn't fly to Boulder, Colorado on its own; it hitchhiked there. And now all of their ash trees are at risk of dying. The risks from EAB stretch well beyond Colorado's borders. Today EAB infestations are in 30 States, but not yet detected in Montana.

Invasive plant pests and diseases are a threat everywhere. They could devastate our neighborhoods and public green spaces, and cause damage to native species of plants, forests, watersheds, lakes, rivers and utility systems. As it stands today, damage from invasive plant pests costs our nation about \$40 billion annually. We ask you to be a plant pest warrior and protector of agriculture and the environment by avoiding risky activities that could inadvertently move a plant pest or disease.

To protect our resources, join us in the battle against invasive plant pests and diseases. Please visit www.Hungrypests.com or the various websites below to

learn what you can do. This April—Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month—we urge you to take action to stop the spread of harmful pests.

Sincerely,

Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council

Bryce Christiaens,
Chair

Stephanie Hester, Liaison

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/MISAC>

Montana State University Extension

Mary Burrows, Professor, Extension Plant Pathology Specialist

<http://diagnostics.montana.edu/>

Montana Department of Agriculture

Andy Gray, Bureau Chief/State Plant Regulatory Official

<http://agr.mt.gov/About-the-Department/Agricultural-Sciences-Division>

Montana Department of Natural Resource and Conservation

Amy Gannon, Forest Entomologist

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/forestry/forestry-assistance/pest-management/surveillance-for-invasive-forest-pests>

USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Gary Adams, State Plant Health Director

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/plant-pest-and-disease-programs>

For more information about MISAC and to access archives of this e-newsletter go to: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/MISAC>